

Message Text

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44

ACTION AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15

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R 021105Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7842

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS PRAGUE 0705

PASS AGRICULTURE

VIENNA FOR AGATT

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, CZ

SUBJECT: DELAYS IN SPRING PLANTING IN CZECH LANDS

1. CTK RELEASE CARRIED IN APRIL 2

PRAGUE PRESS ADMITS

THAT RECENT BAD WEATHER HAS SERIOUSLY IMPEDED SPRING PLANTING IN CZECH LANDS(BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA). AS OF APRIL 1, ONLY 189,800 HA (22 PER CENT OF TOTAL) HAD BEEN PLANTED WITH GRAINS, AS COMPARED WITH 700,000 HA(92.6 PER CENT OF TOTAL) A YEAR AGO. SIMILARLY, SUGAR BEET PLANTING TO APRIL 1 IS ONLY 5,860 HA(3.8 PER CENT OF TOTAL), COMPARED TO 90,709 HA(64.4 PER CENT OF TOTAL) PLANTED BY SAME DATE IN 1974. POTATO PLANTINGS STAND AT 1,768 HA, ABOUT ONE-FIFTH OF PLANNED FIGURE.

2. PRESS RELEASE NOTES THAT GREATEST PART OF THOSE AREAS WHICH HAVE BEEN PLANTED ARE IN SOUTHERN MORAVIAN REGION, WHICH HAS PRESUMABLY BEEN LESS AFFLICTED BY UNSEASONABLE COLD AND PRECIPITATION THAN BOHEMIA AND NORTHERN MORAVIA.

SHERER

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